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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: April 5, 2005

Name: G. Peter Nichols

Signature:

BRINKS
HOFER
GILSON
& LIONE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Craig Van Buuren

Appln. No.: 10/796,557

Filed: March 9, 2004

For: Method of and Apparatus for Simulating a Biological Heap Leaching Process

Attorney Docket No: 10908/9

Examiner: N/A

Art Unit: 1754

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement; Form PTO 1449 and corresponding foreign references A4-A8.
☒ Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

- ☐ No additional fee is required.
☐ Small Entity.
☐ An extension fee in an amount of \$_____ for a _____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
☐ A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$_____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(____).
☐ An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity			Not a Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$25=			x \$50=	
Indep.		Minus			x 100=			x \$200=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$180=			+ \$360=	
					Total	\$		Total	\$

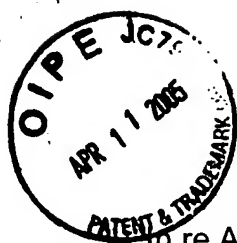
Fee payment:

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.
☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$_____. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
☐ Payment by credit card in the amount of \$_____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed) or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

April 5, 2005
Date

Respectfully submitted

G. Peter Nichols (Reg. No. 34,401)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Craig Van Buuren

Appln. No.: 10/796,557

Filed: March 9, 2004

For: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS
FOR SIMULATING A
BIOLOGICAL HEAP LEACHING
PROCESS

Examiner: N/A

Art Unit: 1754

Attorney Docket No: 10908/9

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and more particularly in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), Applicant hereby cites the following reference(s):

Document No.	Date of Publication	Patentee/Applicant/Assignee
4,974,816	04/12/1990	O'Connor
5,242,643	09/07/1993	Kim et al.
6,063,158	05/16/2000	Sharp et al.

Document No.	Date	Country
SU 472336	05/30/1975	Soviet Union
JP 60164476	08/27/1985	Japan
DD 287267 A5	02/21/1991	East Germany
WO 01/18262 A2	03/15/2001	WIPO
KR 2004015894	02/21/2004	South Korea

Applicant is enclosing Form PTO-1449 (one sheet), along with a copy of each listed reference for which a copy is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2). Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's consideration of the above reference(s) and entry thereof into the record of this application.

By submitting this Statement, Applicant is attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Statement is not

intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other information referred to therein, constitutes "prior art" or is otherwise "material to patentability," as that phrase is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

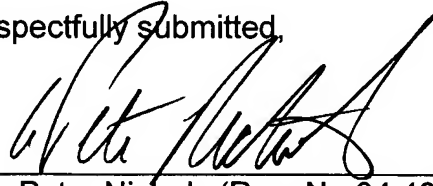
The relevance of SU 472 336 is that the Abstract was considered to be a Category "A" reference in the search report of the corresponding PCT application (attached).

The relevance of JP 60-164476 is that the Abstract was considered to be a Category "A" reference in the search report of the corresponding PCT application (attached).

The relevance of KR 2004-015894 is that the Abstract was considered to be a Category "P", "X", reference in the search report of the corresponding PCT application (attached).

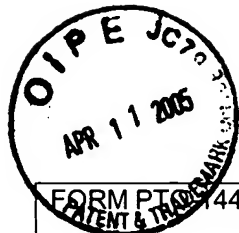
Applicant has calculated no fee to be due in connection with the filing of this Statement. However, the Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency associated with the filing of this Statement to a deposit account, as authorized in the Transmittal accompanying this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



G. Peter Nichols (Reg. No.34,401)

April 5, 2005
Date



FORM PTO 1449 PATENT & TRADEMARK	SERIAL NO. 10/796,557	CASE NO. 10908/9
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	March 9, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT 1754
(use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT(S): Craig Van Buuren

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	4,974,816	04/12/1990	O'Connor	266/168	01/21/1987
	A2	5,242,643	09/07/1993	Kim et al.	422/129	07/17/1992
	A3	6,063,158	05/16/2000	Sharp et al.	75/743	05/15/1998

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	A4	SU 472336	05/30/1975	Soviet Union		Abstract
	A5	JP 60164476	08/27/1985	Japan		Abstract
	A6	DD 287267 A5	02/21/1991	East Germany		Claims
	A7	WO 01/18262 A2	03/15/2001	WIPO		Yes
	A8	KR 2004015894	02/21/2004	South Korea		Abstract

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.